

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as indicated below.

1. (previously amended) A voice web browser system comprising:

a plurality of touch-tone telephones capable of producing DTMF signals;

a remote access system coupled to a TCP/IP network, said TCP/IP network comprising a plurality of nodes, said TCP/IP network providing access to web pages stored on computer systems coupled to said TCP/IP network, said web pages comprising HTML code that can be transmitted via TCP/IP packets to said access system over said TCP/IP network, said access system being able to receive said TCP/IP packets and to parse said HTML code into text and non-text portions;

FI a speech recognition system responsive to spoken commands from said telephone users and operative to provide voice commands to said access system;

a public telephone system coupling said plurality of telephones to said access system for interactive communication with said access system through one or more telephone switch offices such that at least one of said DTMF signals and voice commands can be used to navigate among said web pages to a selected web page for a plurality of users of said plurality of telephones after a user of a touch-tone telephone is granted permission to use such functionality;

a security system requiring at least a password to grant said user permission;
and

a text-to-speech system associated with said access system for reading at least some of said text portions to at least one of said plurality of users of said selected web page.

Claims 2 and 3 were previously canceled without prejudice.

4. (original claim) A voice web browser system as recited in claim 1 wherein said access system consists of a unitary computer system.

5. (previously amended) A voice web browser system as recited in claim 1 wherein said access system comprises an interface computer system coupled to said plurality of telephone users by said telephone system, and a server coupling said interface computer to said TCP/IP network.

FI 6. (previously amended) A voice web browser system as recited in claim 1 wherein said access system is responsive to commands from said plurality of telephone users for navigating both within web pages and between web pages of said TCP/IP network.

7. (currently amended) A computer implemented process for obtaining web page and e-mail information over a TCP/IP network comprising:

implementing a connection of a plurality of telephone users via a public telephone system including at least one telephone switch office to an access system that is coupled to a TCP/IP network;

requiring at least a password to grant a user of a telephone permission utilize the functionality of said access system;

making an initial verbal communication to said user including at least providing a plurality of options including at least a network browsing option and an e-mail option;

if a network browsing option is selected, detecting a selection of navigation commands by at least one of voice and DTMF commands made by said telephone users to access web pages accessible over said TCP/IP network; and

if a network browsing option is selected, navigating over said TCP/IP network to said web pages in response to said navigation command, resulting in verbal communication of at least some information derivable from said web pages to said user.

Claims 8 and 9 were previously canceled without prejudice.

F | 10. (previously amended) A computer implemented process as recited in claim 7 wherein said plurality of options includes navigating the TCP/IP network and at least one of the sending of e-mail to others and receiving of e-mail from others.

11. (original claim) A computer implemented process as recited in claim 10 wherein said plurality of options further includes creating a web page on said TCP/IP network.

12. (original claim) A computer readable media encoded with the computer implemented process of claim 7.

13. (previously amended) A voice web browser comprising:

connection means including a public telephone system including at least one telephone switch office for implementing connections of a plurality of touch-tone telephone users to an access system that is coupled to a TCP/IP network;

means requiring at least a password to grant a user of a touch tone telephone permission utilize the functionality of said access system;

means for detecting a selection of navigation commands in the form of at least one of a voice and a DTMF command by said telephone users to access web pages accessible over said TCP/IP network; and

means for navigating over said TCP/IP network to said web pages in response to said navigation commands, resulting in a verbal communication of at least some information derivable from said web pages to said plurality of telephone users.

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Claim 14 was previously canceled without prejudice.

15. (currently amended) A voice web browser as recited in claim 13 wherein said means for making initial verbal contacts includes means for providing a plurality of options to the telephone users.

16. (currently amended) A voice web browser as recited in claim 13 further comprising means for creating a web page accessible via said TCP/IP network.

17. (previously amended) A method for retrieving e-mail that was sent over a TCP/IP network comprising:

calling from a user touch-tone telephone via a public telephone system including at least one telephone switch office to an access computer coupled to a TCP/IP network;

providing at least one of a user identification and a password to said access computer by at least one of user ID, voice communication, and DTMF signals;

retrieving e-mail via said access computer that was sent over said TCP/IP network and addressed to said user; and

reading said e-mail to said user of said user telephone utilizing a text-to-speech system.

18. (previously amended) A method for retrieving e-mail as recited in claim 17 further comprising providing at least one command to said access computer via at least one of a voice and a DTMF command developed by said user telephone.

19. (original claim) A computer readable media encoded with software instructions and data to implement the method of claim 17.

20. (previously amended) A system for retrieving e-mail that was sent over a TCP/IP network comprising:

an access computer means coupled to a TCP/IP network, said access computer means being accessible by a user via a user touch-tone telephone which communicates with said access computer means via a public telephone system including at least one telephone switch office;

DTMF signals for providing at least one of user identification and a password to said access computer means;

means for retrieving e-mail via said access computer means that was sent over said TCP/IP network and addressed to said user; and

means for reading said e-mail to said user of said user telephone.

21. (previously added) A voice web browser as recited in claim 1 wherein at least one of DTMF and voice recognition can be used to interact with said selected web page by said user.

22. (currently amended) A voice web browser system comprising: as recited in claim 21

a plurality of touch-tone telephones capable of producing DTMF signals;

a remote access system coupled to a TCP/IP network, said TCP/IP network comprising a plurality of nodes, said TCP/IP network providing access to web pages stored on computer systems coupled to said TCP/IP network, said web pages comprising HTML code that can be transmitted via TCP/IP packets to said access system over said TCP/IP network, said access system being able to receive said TCP/IP packets and to parse said HTML code into text and non-text portions;

a speech recognition system responsive to spoken commands from said telephone users and operative to provide voice commands to said access system;

a public telephone system coupling said plurality of telephones to said access system for interactive communication with said access system through one or more telephone switch offices such that at least one of said DTMF signals and voice commands can be used to navigate among said web pages to a selected web page for a plurality of users of said plurality of telephones after a user of a touch-tone telephone is granted permission to use such functionality;

a security system requiring at least a password to grant said user permission;
and

a text-to-speech system associated with said access system for reading at least some of said text portions to at least one of said plurality of users of said selected web page;

wherein at least one of DTMF and voice recognition can be used to interact with said selected web page by said user, and wherein said interaction with said selected web page includes the entry of data into a data field of said selected web page.

23. (previously added) A computer implemented process as recited in claim 7 further comprising using at least one of DTMF and voice recognition to allow said user to interact with said selected web page.

24. (Currently amended) A computer implemented process—as recited in claim 23—wherein for obtaining web page information over a TCP/IP network comprising:

implementing a connection of a plurality of telephone users via a public telephone system including at least one telephone switch office to an access system that is coupled to a TCP/IP network;

requiring at least a password to grant a user of a telephone permission utilize the functionality of said access system;

making an initial verbal communication to said user including at least providing a plurality of options;

detecting a selection of navigation commands by at least one of voice and DTMF commands made by said telephone users to access web pages accessible over said TCP/IP network;

navigating over said TCP/IP network to said web pages in response to said navigation command, resulting in verbal communication of at least some information derivable from said web pages to said user; and

using at least one of DTMF and voice recognition to allow said user to interact with said selected web page including ~~allowing said user to interact with said selected web page includes allowing the user to enter data into a data field of said selected web page.~~

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25. (previously added) A method as recited in claim 17 further comprising:

entering a new e-mail message via at least one of voice recognition and DTMF signals; and

sending said new e-mail message to a recipient via said TCP/IP network.
